



September 1, 2005

DESIGN MEMORANDUM No. 05-29
POLICY CHANGE

TO **All Design, Operations, and District Personnel and Consultants**

FROM: /s/ Anthony L. Uremovich
 Anthony L. Uremovich
 Design Policy Engineer
 Contracts and Construction Division

SUBJECT: **Curbed Section in Suburban or Intermediate Urban Area**

EFFECTIVE: **Immediately**

A curbed cross section is an appropriate design option in an outlying suburban or intermediate setting, or in an area undergoing or in imminent transition from rural-to-suburban land use, as well as in a low-speed or built-up urban setting. This clarification and latitude to expand opportunities for selection of a curbed cross-section is due in part to a desire by INDOT to plan each facility in context with existing and planned land-use characteristics.

As applicable in the proper setting, a curbed section may be considered for a facility with a design speed of 90 km/h (55 mph). Where curbs are used, vertical curbs should only be used where the design speed is 70 km/h (45 mph) or lower, while sloping curbs should be used where the design speed is 80 km/h (50 mph) or 90 km/h (55 mph).

The use of a curbed vs. uncurbed (shoulders and roadside ditches) section will be made on a project-by-project basis considering right-of-way constraints, total costs, drainage, pedestrian activity, channelization, driveway access control, etc. The policy applies to new construction, 4R, and 3R work in each design classification other than freeway. The use of a curbed cross section is generally limited to a project having an urban design classification (suburban, intermediate, or built-up), though there are unusual situations where curbs may be necessary and suitable in a project having a rural design classification.

Shoulders may be appropriate in a curbed cross section. However, it is acceptable practice not to provide a shoulder aside a curb for a design speed of 90 km/h (55 mph) or lower. Design Memorandum 05-29 Technical Advisory shows shoulder widths adjacent to a curb where a shoulder is used.

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